

# Double Agent Says He Got Few Rewards

## Contends U.S. Reneged In Capture of Soviet Spy

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

The man who served for three years as a double agent to help capture a Soviet spy last August said yesterday that his life had been anything but a James Bond adventure and that his Federal controllers had reneged on promises of money, medals, a job and other rewards.

Far from a fantasy thriller with glamorous women and fast cars, the erstwhile counterspy said he had lived in a basement, attended college, worked in a factory and occasionally passed photocopies of nonsecret materials to a Russian in parks, restaurants and subway stations.

The man, Leakh N. Bhoge, said he had been promised "well over \$100,000" but had been paid just \$20,000 for helping to nab Gennadi F. Zakharov, a Soviet employee of the United Nations.

### 'Things Never Materialized'

Mr. Zakharov was arrested Aug. 23 and later, in effect, traded for Nicholas S. Daniloff, an American reporter seized in Moscow on what were widely viewed as retaliatory espionage charges.

"I was promised rewards, lots of money and a few other things: medals, a good job, a recommendation," Mr. Bhoge said at a news conference at Queens College, where he met Mr. Zakharov four years ago. "Those things never materialized."

Mr. Bhoge, whose first name is pronounced Lake and whose last name rhymes with vogue, is a 30-year-old native of Guyana who became a naturalized American last year. He said he went to the Federal Bureau of Investigation a week after his first contact with Mr. Zakharov in 1983 and not only reported on all his later contacts with the Russian but also turned over to American agents all of the \$10,000 that the Russian had paid for information.

Known to the F.B.I. as Plumber and to the K.G.B. as Birg, Mr. Bhoge said he had been proud to serve his country but would not do it again. "Not under the circumstances I worked in," he said, "not with the treatment I was given by the F.B.I. They should not use people like me and dump them."

In Washington an F.B.I. official confirmed that Mr. Bhoge had aided the investigation that led to Mr. Zakharov's arrest, but he declined to comment on his description of his services or his contention that the F.B.I. had promised him money and other rewards and had not provided them.

### Working as Truck Driver

Mr. Bhoge, a 1985 Queens College graduate with a degree in computer sciences, lives in a basement apartment at 140 Sheridan Avenue, in the East New York section of Brooklyn. He said that after being unemployed since just after the spy case ended seven months ago, he got a \$250-a-week job several weeks ago as a truck driver for a delivery service.

He said the F.B.I. had offered him \$10,000 more last September but broke off contact with him when he refused it as inadequate. Trying to renew his appeal to the F.B.I., Mr. Bhoge has taken several steps besides yesterday's news conference.

Last fall he went to Representative Gary Ackerman, a Democrat of Queens, who interceded but was told the agent had been paid what he was worth. Because Mr. Bhoge had refused to give his name in phone calls before meeting Mr. Ackerman, he became known in the Congressman's office as "John the Spy."

Recently, on the advice of a lawyer and Queens College officials, Mr. Bhoge also took his story to New York Magazine, which has published in its current issue an account of his life as a double agent and his complaints about inadequate compensation. His name had not surfaced in the espionage affair until now.

According to the magazine account and his own version at the news conference, Mr. Bhoge, who came to the United States in 1977, was introduced to

Mr. Zakharov by a friend. The encounter was said to have taken place at Queens College in April 1983.

With the encouragement of the F.B.I., the account continues, Mr. Bhoge became a "researcher" for the Russian, who was a physicist for the United Nations Center for Science and Technology for Development.

Mr. Bhoge, a bachelor who helps support his elderly parents, said he agreed to be a double agent "to protect the national security of this country."

"Every person should make it their No. 1 priority," he added. "This I am proud of."

Life was not an adventure, however. "James Bond had an elaborate life style, fancy cars, a lot of girls," Mr. Bhoge said. "I worked in a factory, even though I had a college degree. I lived in a basement and had to pay the bills."

### Passing of Photocopies

His counterspy career consisted mostly of going to libraries and schools like Columbia, Princeton and the University of Connecticut and making photocopies of what he called nonclassified materials. He said he never had given Mr. Zakharov classified materials until the day of the Russian's arrest.

Wearing a tape recorder on his back and sometimes under surveillance by his F.B.I. controllers, whom he identified as Dan Sayner and Harry Mount, Mr. Bhoge said he met Mr. Zakharov two or three times a month to turn over materials and receive payments.

"The most dangerous thing was going out and meeting Gennadi Zakharov," he said. "Every time I didn't

know what to expect. I thought I was in danger. If Zakharov knew who I was, he could have killed me."

After graduation in February 1985, Mr. Bhoge said, the F.B.I. "set this job up" for him as a milling machine operator at the H. G. Machine and Tool Company in Long Island City, a military contractor that made parts for the F-15 fighter plane.

He gave the Russian documents he said he had got from the company safe but that actually were supplied by the F.B.I. When Mr. Zakharov was arrested, Mr. Bhoge gave him three classified documents, which he said were designs for airplane engines.

"I didn't understand the materials," he said.

### Arrest in Subway

The arrest of the Russian on a Queens subway platform and the subsequent arrest of Mr. Daniloff produced a tense confrontation between the United States and Soviet Governments. It ended Sept. 29, after talks between Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard V. Shevardnadze, when Mr. Daniloff was freed; the White House denied it was a trade, but Mr. Zakharov was soon sent home.

For Mr. Bhoge, however, the trouble was not over. He noted that Mr. Zakharov had got off without penalty, and he said Mr. Daniloff had "walked off with half a million" — an apparent reference to book rights.

"Of course it makes me bitter," he said. "I've seen other people treated better than I have been. I'm not satisfied."